

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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February 6, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR: TRANSFER OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY TAX OVERPAYMENTS TO THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the Treasurer and Tax Collector to transfer to the County's General Fund a total of \$3.77 million in unclaimed secured property tax overpayments, for Fiscal Years 1996-2002, to be recognized as revenue in Fiscal Year 2007-2008.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This letter requests Board approval to transfer unclaimed property tax overpayments to the County's general fund.

Unclaimed Property Tax Overpayments

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 5102 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to transfer to the County's General Fund any property tax overpayments for which refunds are permissible and for which a claim for refund has not been filed within four years of payment.

When overpayments or double payments occur, the Treasurer and Tax Collector attempts to identify the person making the payment and refund them accordingly. If the Treasurer and Tax Collector is unable to identify the person making the payment, a notification is sent to the assessee of record indicating that a claim for refund can be filed with the Treasurer and Tax Collector.

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Through these efforts, the Treasurer and Tax Collector successfully processed claims and issued refunds of seventy percent (70%) of all the overpayments or double payments received in Fiscal Years 1996-2002.

All unclaimed funds are maintained for a minimum of four years during which time claims for refunds are received, validated, and processed. These unclaimed funds totaling \$3.77 million represent less than one-tenth of one percent of all tax payments received in Fiscal Years 1996-2002.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

This action supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

This request provides for the transfer of \$3.77 million to the County's General Fund in accordance with Revenue and Taxation Code Section 5102.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA Chief Executive Officer

WTF:ES:GS LM:ef

c: County Counsel Auditor-Controller